

Park Avenue Synagogue

ק"ק אגודה יישרים

June Bulletin



**"The Spark
Within Us"—
A Year of
Exploring What
Makes Us Jews**

Park Avenue
Synagogue

**Get Ready for
The Great
Synagogue
Read-In**

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**Learn From
a Noted
Israeli Scholar**

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**Come to
Tikun Leyl
*Shavuot***

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From the Rabbi's Desk

You need a good imagination when walking through Bergen Belsen to try to re-create in your mind's eye the hell that once stood there and took place there.



The British were forced to burn down all of the buildings to prevent further contagion, and the main site of the camp has been meticulously landscaped to create a great, large open field interrupted only by a series of mounds that mark the mass graves. It's a rather serene place; we saw a few butterflies, and in the early morning—even a gray, damp, somewhat chilly one, the birds, ignorant of what image the word Belsen conjures, chirp and sing with abandon.

Step off the paths and the earth feels eerily springy, cushioned—that's perhaps the only indication of the horrors that lie concealed there.

What does one make of Belsen?

As I walked the paths on my own for the first time, all I could do was to marvel at the miracle of what most of those who survived Belsen were able to do: to start over again—to begin life anew, and to give life to others—to re-establish families. I was overwhelmed by a sense of gratitude to, and admiration for, my mother and all others like her, for their courage and their optimism.

I went to Belsen, ostensibly for the 60th anniversary of the liberation of the camp. Perhaps I went as a way to connect to my parents. With both of them gone now, I recently said Kaddish for my father in Prague, the land of my mother's birth, and then went to Germany where he was born, and where my mother began her journey back from death to the land of the living. But I don't really know why I went; perhaps just because in some sense, it was time, repeating the mantra "It's a celebration; it's a celebration," but not quite believing it.

SCHEDULE OF RELIGIOUS SERVICES

MAY 2005

Friday evening, June 3		
Friday Evening Service	6:15 pm	
High School Graduation & Dinner*		
Saturday morning, June 4		
<i>Hashkama Service</i>	7:30 am	
<i>Sanctuary Service</i>	9:15 am	
Ruth Calderon, speaker		
<i>Havurah Service</i>	9:30 am	
<i>Tot Shabbat Service & Picnic</i>	11:15 am	
Friday evening, June 10		
Friday Evening Service	6:15 pm	
Children's Birthday Service		
Saturday morning, June 11		
<i>Sanctuary Service</i>	9:15 am	
<i>Bar Mitzvah of Elliot Comite, son of Anita & Dr. Stephen Comite</i>		
Sunday, June 12— Erev Shavuot		
<i>Erev Shavuot Service, Minha, Ma'ariv & Tikun Leyl Shavuot (special study session)</i>	8:00 pm	
Monday, June 13— Shavuot		
<i>Sanctuary Service</i>	9:15 am	
<i>Minha</i>	5:45 pm	
Tuesday, June 14— Shavuot		
<i>Sanctuary Service with Yizkor</i>	9:15 am	
<i>Minha</i>	5:45 pm	
Friday evening, June 17		
Friday Evening Service	6:15 pm	
Saturday morning, June 18		
<i>Sanctuary Service</i>	9:15 am	
<i>B'nai Mitzvah of Aaron Smallberg & Rebecca Smallberg, son & daughter of Diane & Dr. Gerald Smallberg</i>		
Friday evening, June 24		
Friday Evening Service	6:15 pm	
Saturday morning, June 25		
<i>Sanctuary Service</i>	9:15 am	

Rabbi David H. Lincoln and Rabbi Kenneth A. Stern will preach and conduct the services together with Cantor David Lefkowitz and Cantor Nancy Abramson and the Synagogue Choir, with Neil Robinson at the organ. *Reservations required

So I went and I made connections—to my mother.

Of the more than 200 hundred barracks that Belsen contained, only five have been excavated. In one location the footprint of the foundations of two barracks have been cleared, and further in the camp, away from the landscaped fields with its graves and memorials, the frames of another three barracks have been reconstructed. Those three barracks and a concrete water reservoir for fire-fighting serve as unmistakable markers for locating the site of the barracks that my mother and my aunt were assigned to. All

that one can see is brush and bushes, but in the variation of the vegetation—its coloration and height—it's possible to detect the outline of what was once Barrack 222.

Sitting at lunch later that day, I happened to sit down among a group of survivors from Hungary—and across from a woman who now lives in Budapest, but grew up in my mother's hometown in Czechoslovakia. Her family name meant nothing to me; my relatives' names meant nothing to her, but while sitting there I called my 93-year-old aunt in Forest Hills and let the two of them talk. My aunt remembers her parents and



From the Chairman



have just completed two years as your Chairman. As I often write, I am honored by this position and am excited by all the possibilities that exist to continue to build on the accomplishments of those who came before me to make Park Avenue Synagogue the most important Jewish address for all our congregants. The clergy, the staff and many of our members work tirelessly in a variety of capacities to create the successful programs that define Park

Avenue Synagogue.

At this juncture in my Chairmanship, I want to use this column to thank my fellow officers for their hard work. Each of them has taken on innumerable tasks, has attended countless meetings and has worked for the Synagogue with diligence and devotion. My extreme gratitude goes to Menachem Rosensaft, Steve Friedman, Marty Halbfinger, Joel Hirschtritt, Brian Lustbader, Susan Silverman and Adam Usdan. Our Synagogue is very fortunate to have them as officers.

As I begin my third year, I will continue to work toward the many goals I have outlined in this column in the past—meaningful experiences every time you enter our building, a membership that is a community, and assistance to each member as he makes his Jewish journey. However, I am adding a new

grandparents well; they were wine merchants my aunt told me.

And I made other connections—to people. In general terms, one cannot accompany and be a part of a group like this without making connections and identifying with others—survivors, their children, children born in DP Camp Bergen Belsen, and those of the lost transport—who were sent on trains from Belsen just before the liberation and traversed Germany until the Allied armies reached them. They were all there to tell their stories, to hear others' stories, to identify and to try to make connections with anyone who might remember them.

And their stories are the stories of families—sometimes damaged families, but families nonetheless.

Some come alone, but most are accompanied by spouses, or children and grand-children.

Some of the survivors are strong-willed, outspoken, forceful. They can be demanding, at times impatient. They do not allow others to tell them what to do, or when. Many radiate the energy that allowed them to endure unspeakable suffering and horrors.

The survivors are also sweet, gentle

and generous of spirit, meek and unassuming, and respectful.

It takes all kinds to survive, to make a community and comprise families. But despite the lack of uniformity to their experiences and their diverse personality types, **there is unity**.

The Camp was liberated two weeks after Passover in 1945. Passover—the holiday of our once and future redemption. Passover—the holiday on which Elijah the Prophet is supposed to re-appear. Even before Elijah's return, the survivors, for the most part, have already achieved the mission envisioned by Malachi for Elijah: "parents shall be reconciled with children and children with their parents."

Kenneth A. Stern

Rabbi

NB: I went to Bergen Belsen as part of the American contingent of survivors and their families, and also as part of an "unofficial delegation" from Park Avenue Synagogue consisting of Menachem and Jean Rosensaft (who persuaded me to go by telling me, "it's a celebration"), their daughter and son-in-law Jodi and Mike Rosensaft, Dan and Vivian Bernstein and their children, Peter and Michelle, and Arthur Ainsberg.

objective to the list, to get more of our members to volunteer in any capacity on the projects of the Synagogue. There is tremendous opportunity for responsibility. Your time and thoughts are welcomed, and most importantly, are needed. You will find that as you engage in life here at P.A.S., not only will the Synagogue benefit, but you will, too. Please contact Beryl Chernov, our Executive Director, at (212) 369-2600 or bchernov@pasyn.org—there is a place for you here, and we want you.

Soon we will celebrate *Shavuot*. This holiday commemorates the giving of the Torah. In this year that examines the Spark Within Us: What Makes Us Special as Jews Today, I hope you find the holiday especially meaningful.

Chag Sameach.

Amy A.B. Bressman
Chairman

All About Shavuot

Shavuot, the Festival of Weeks or Pentecost, is celebrated exactly seven weeks after Passover. It is observed for one day in Israel and for two days by those of us who live in the diaspora.

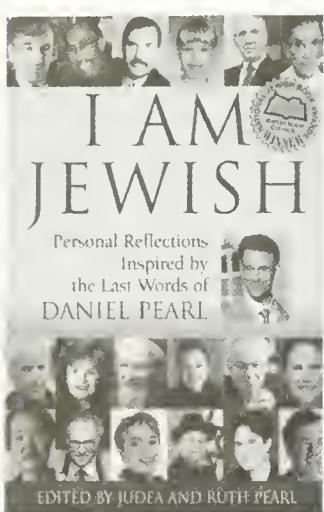
Originally, *Shavuot* was solely an agricultural festival, a time of ceremony and rejoicing, when the first fruits were brought to Jerusalem. But, in time, it became associated historically with the giving of the Torah on Mt. Sinai.

During the services on this festival, we read the Ten Commandments and the general theme is the Jewish love of learning. Also, the Book of Ruth is read because it shows the great devotion of Ruth to her adopted faith and people.

Among the customs associated with *Shavuot* are decorating the synagogue with flowers, all-night study (*Tikun Leyl Shavuot*), and the eating of dairy foods, which is symbolic of the concept of Israel as the land of milk and honey.

Park Avenue Synagogue Happenings

2nd Annual Great Synagogue Read-In



When *The Wall Street Journal* reporter Daniel Pearl was

brutally murdered in Pakistan, many Jews were particularly touched by his

*I Am Jewish:
Personal
Reflections
Inspired by the
Last Words of
Daniel Pearl*,
edited by Judea and Ruth Pearl

last words affirming his Jewish identity. Many were moved to reflect on or analyze their feelings toward their lives as Jews. The saying "two Jews, three opinions" well reflects the Jewish community's broad range of views on any topic. "I Am Jewish" captures this richness of interpretation and inspires Jewish people of all backgrounds to reflect upon and take pride in their identity. Contributions, ranging from major essays to a paragraph or a sentence, come from adults as well as young people in the form of personal feelings, statements of theology, life stories, a poem by P.A.S. President Menachem Z. Rosensaft, and historical

reflections. Despite the diversity, common denominators shine through clearly and distinctly in this book.

On December 8, Judea Pearl, Daniel's father, will join us as we culminate our year's exploration of *The Spark Within Us*. We invite you to read the book this summer. In the fall, we will provide opportunities for all congregants to reflect and write on the role that Judaism plays in their lives. We will publish our own collection of responses to be distributed at the culminating event. Books are available for sale. Call Sarah Gribetz at (212) 369-2600, ext 142, to arrange to purchase a copy.



Visiting Israeli Scholar Ruth Calderon

We are proud to welcome Ruth Calderon, visiting scholar

from Israel, who will speak from the *Bimah* about "Modern Twists on Ancient Texts" during the **Saturday, June 4, 9:15 am Shabbat Service**. Ruth Calderon is the scholar-in-residence at UJA Federation of New York, and the founder of Alma College in Tel Aviv, as well as Elul, a pluralistic college of Jewish learning in Jerusalem. She is a dynamic and popular teacher of classical texts.

We look forward to honoring long-time member Helen Hahn at June 4 *Shabbat* services in recognition of her upcoming milestone birthday. Helen was named, confirmed and married at P.A.S. and was a leader of Sisterhood. Helen often says, "This synagogue means everything to me." This is our chance to let her know how much she means to us.

Salute to Israel Parade

Show your support and solidarity with Israel by joining us on **Sunday, June 5** as we march down Fifth Avenue. This family event is a lot of fun and an important way to express your love and concern for Israel. Open to children in grades 4 and up together with their families, as well as adult congregants of all ages. Please call or email Sarah Gribetz at (212) 369-2600, ext. 142, or sgribetz@pasyn.org for information regarding our meeting point and T-shirts.

Tikun Leyl Shavuot

It is a Jewish tradition to spend the first night of *Shavuot* studying the Torah, because it is on *Shavuot* that we celebrate the giving of the Torah to Moses and the Jewish people. This tradition is called *Tikun Leyl Shavuot*. On **Sunday, June 12 at 8:00 pm**, Cantors David Lefkowitz and Nancy Abramson, together with the Synagogue Choir, will conduct a special Festival service, which will be followed by a study session to be led by Rabbi Kenneth Stern. The topic will be "The Ten Commandments: What Was

Revealed at Sinai?" Following the study session, cheesecake and coffee will be served in honor of the tradition of eating dairy foods on *Shavuot*. We hope you will join us.

A Call for P.A.S. Memorabilia

In 2007, P.A.S. will celebrate its 125th year. The Anniversary Committee is already hard at work and needs your help! Please begin looking through your collections for P.A.S. memorabilia—photos, programs, souvenirs, etc.—to include in various displays as well as a permanent archive. Details on where and when we will collect these materials will appear in upcoming *Bulletins*.

On June 18 at *Shabbat* services we will honor Sam Feinsmith, our Torah reader of 10 years. This will be Sam's last service with us. He will be ordained as a rabbi the next day. We wish him well in this new chapter in his life.

P.A.S. Arms

Men's Club: Floyd Abrams, Renowned 1st Amendment Attorney, To Speak at P.A.S.

Floyd Abrams, an attorney and educator noted during his illustrious career for vigorously defending our citizens' First Amendment rights, will discuss and autograph his new book, *Speaking Freely: Trials of the First Amendment* (Viking, 2005, \$25.95), at Park Avenue Synagogue on **Tuesday June 7 at 7:30 pm**. One New York



Times book reviewer, himself a distinguished law professor, described Mr. Abrams as having been "at the epicenter of almost every major

controversy involving... freedom of speech or of the press" for the last 30 years. Mr. Abrams was prominently involved, for example, in forestalling

the Nixon Administration's effort to suppress publication of The Pentagon Papers, in blunting threats made by the Giuliani Administration to cut the Brooklyn Museum's funding when it displayed artwork that some people considered religiously offensive, and in mounting a constitutional challenge to the McCain-Feingold campaign finance law, whose effects include the curtailment of certain speech related rights. This event is sponsored by the Men's Club. Light refreshments will be served. There is no charge and all are welcome. R.S.V.P. to Fred Mirsky, (212) 371-3933.

WEG: Study and Socialize on Rosh Chodesh

Moonbeams, a *Rosh Chodesh* Study/Social Experience, developed by Hadassah and sponsored by the Women's Evening Group, welcomes Sarah Gribetz, Director of Family and Adult Education at Park Avenue Synagogue, as its Facilitator for text-study that will answer the question: "What is 613?" Meeting every month throughout the year on, or close to, *Rosh Chodesh*, in the hospitable living rooms of participants, the group takes its theme this year from the Synagogue's year-long focus, "The Spark Within Us." Moonbeams invites women of the congregation and community to join this unique group of women of all ages in an adventure of learning and friendship, on **Tuesday, June 7, and Thursdays, July 7 and August 4, 7:30 - 9:00 pm** (additional dates will be announced). Please consult the Synagogue Web Site for more information or call Joann Rosoff, (212) 348-4531, or Joan Schefler, (212) 734-0444.

WEG: Tour the Exhibitions at HUC-JIR

All WEG members are invited to the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, One West Fourth Street (between Broadway and Mercer Street), on **Monday, June 20**. Join us for a light dinner at 5:30 pm, followed by a guided tour of the exhibits, led by Jean Bloch Rosensaft, Museum Director at HUC-JIR, at 6:15 pm. Featured will be works by Jan Aronson, Aliza Olmat, and more. Please R.S.V.P. to Lucy Becker, (212) 288-7523.

Sisterhood: Honor Israeli Nobel Prize Winners

Jews around the world were thrilled when two Israeli scientists recently were awarded the Nobel Prize. All are welcome on **Tuesday, June 21 at 1:00 pm**, when the Sisterhood of P.A.S. and the American Technion Society will jointly sponsor a discussion of the background and work of Avram Hershko and Aaron Civchanover. Our speaker, Evelyn Berger of Technion, will use slides to

explain the achievements of these noted scientists. A light lunch will be provided. This event is presented in memory of Gerald Silbert, a distinguished leader of P.A.S. and the American Technion Society.

Sisterhood: Daytime Book Discussion

If you like to read and like to exchange ideas about books, consider joining the Daytime Book Discussion Group at P.A.S. We read fiction and nonfiction books related to Jewish topics and meet periodically to discuss them in stimulating, but friendly and informal meetings. Membership is open to all at P.A.S. To join, please call Renée Waldinger at (212) 860-4308.

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Synagogue Family

June B'nai Mitzvah

Elliot Comite

June 11, 2005



Elliot Comite has been a member of the Park Avenue Synagogue community since he entered the Early Childhood Center at the age of three. He is presently in The Congregational School.

Elliot attends Hunter College High School, where he is in the seventh grade. His favorite subjects are math, lunch and recess. Elliot is passionate about sports and has been an active player on the Hunter Middle School basketball and baseball teams. He is a black diamond snowboarder and also enjoys tennis.

His summers for the past five years have been spent at Camp Mah-Kee-Nac in the Berkshires. Also, he has enjoyed traveling with his family to Aruba, Canada, Turkey, England and Israel. Elliot first traveled to Israel with his family three years ago; his second visit to Israel was as a member of the Park Avenue Synagogue trip this past December. There, he celebrated his Israeli *Bar Mitzvah* with the children of the Korshack School and fellow congregants.

Elliot is thankful to his teachers and the clergy for helping him prepare for his *Bar Mitzvah*.

With Pride and Congratulations

P.A.S. extends a hearty *mazel tov* to:

- Cantor Nancy Abramson, on being elected treasurer of the Cantors Assembly, the professional organization representing over 500 Conservative cantors. Cantor Abramson is the first woman ever elected to office in the Assembly.
- Pamela and Matt Chasin, on the birth of their son, Max Ryan Chasin.
- David Greenbaum, on being honored by the Jeffrey Modell Foundation as "Man of the Year" at the Annual

Aaron Smallberg

June 18, 2005



Aaron Smallberg's first Jewish rite of passage at Park Avenue Synagogue was his *Brit Milah*. Thirteen years later, he is very proud to stand on the *Bimah* and share his *B'nai Mitzvah* with his twin sister, Rebecca.

Aaron is a student at Columbia Prep who enjoys all of his academic subjects, but especially likes history and current events. He works on the school newspaper, plays the clarinet and appreciates good wit. Since tennis has given Aaron a lot of pleasure and *Tikkun Olam* is important to him, he and Rebecca are organizing a Tennis-a-thon to raise money for the Israel Children's Center.

Aaron would like to thank the Rabbis, cantors and teachers who have helped him prepare for his *Bar Mitzvah*.

Rebecca Smallberg

June 18, 2005



"Sing and rejoice, O daughter of Zion." Zechariah 2:14. Rebecca, this daughter of Zion, who is proud to be chanting *Haftarah Zechariah* with her brother, Aaron, rejoices in the traditions and sentiment of *Yiddishkeit*. It's no surprise that *Fiddler on the Roof* is Rebecca's favorite play.

Rebecca is a student at Columbia Prep who enjoys her studies, but particularly likes writing. She enjoys playing the violin for pleasure and when doing *Bikur Cholim*. Rebecca plays tennis, and sponsoring an Israel Children's Center Tennis-a-thon is especially meaningful because she has met many of the children in New York and Israel.

Rebecca thanks the Rabbis, cantors and teachers for their guidance in preparing her for her *Bat Mitzvah*.

Spring Ahead Gala.

- Mr. & Mrs. Steven C. Forest, on the birth of their son, Ryan Benjamin Forest.
- Carol Kekst & Meryl Wiener, on being honored by the Solomon Schechter High School of New York at the 13th Anniversary Benefit Gala.
- Rochelle & David Ludwig, on the birth of their son, Zachary Grant Ludwig.
- Melvin L. Schweitzer, on being nominated a Judge of the New York Court of Claims.
- Our teenagers Jonathan Bryer, Daniel Cohen, Andrew Colvin, Abigail Denberg, Liz Fife, Elizabeth Holm, Eric Lemor, Gabrielle Nagler, Stephen Rutman, Carolyn Ruvkun and Josh Sills for participating in Food Pantry *Shabbat*.

Welcome to P.A.S.

Park Avenue Synagogue warmly welcomes these new members to our congregational family:
Mr. Drew Anderman & Mrs. Danielle Mandelbaum, Mr. & Mrs. Fred Lee Barber, Mr. & Mrs. Barry J. Cohen, Mr. Rufus P. Davis & Mrs. Nancie Chan-Davis, Ms. Susan Erlich, Mr. & Mrs. Michael Katzke, Mr. &

Mrs. Adam G. Levin, Mr. & Mrs. Douglas Schultz, Mr. & Mrs. Bryan Siegel, Ms. Vera Wolff Sullivan, Mr. & Ms. Michael A. Varet.

Condolences

Park Avenue Synagogue extends heartfelt sympathy to the bereaved of our congregation and their families:

- Ellen V. Bock, on the passing of her father, Guster V. Varet.
- Saara Cohen, on the passing of her mother, Ruth Berenson.
- David R. Greenbaum, on the passing of his mother, Hannah Greenbaum.
- Stanley B. Horowitz, on the passing of his sister, Mildred Goldberg.
- Brian G. Lustbader, on the passing of his father, Edward E. Lustbader.
- The family of Joan Robbins.
- Emily Roberts, on the passing of her father, Gerald D. Roberts, M.D.
- Dr. Martin Seiden, on the passing of his father, Martin Seiden.
- David Simpson, on the passing of his mother, Ethel Simpson.
- Heidi Slimm, on the passing of her mother, Eunice Slimm.

Jewish Life and Learning

Adult Study and Learning

To register, please call Sarah Gribetz at (212) 36-2600, ext. 142.

Evenings of Learning at the Rothschild

Thursday, June 2, 7:00 - 8:30 pm
Great teachers share their Jewish sparks! Choose a session, then come together for coffee, tea and discussion in the Rothschild Library. All are welcome.

- "The Meaning of *Midrash*" with Dr. Susan Aranoff
- "Martin Buber: The Spark Between I and Thou," with Rabbi Dawn Rose
- "Negotiating the Borderlands: An Integrated Approach to Jewish and General Studies," with Renee Ghert-Zand
- "Spiritual Opportunities in Our Daily Jewish Lives," with Cantor Lefkowitz

Israel Update

Thursday, June 9, 8:00 pm

Hear "A Perspective on the Disengagement" from Gidi Greenstein, Founder and President, The Re'ut Institute, Israel.

Summer Walking Tour of Jewish New York: The Immigrant Experience & The Lower East Side

June 28, 6:30-8:00 pm

What a great way to spend a summer evening! Details of where to meet will follow. You must reserve no later than June 10th. Space is limited. \$10/person.

Calling all cooks!

Start gathering your recipes for Park Avenue Synagogue's upcoming *The Spark Within Us Cookbook*, featuring your family's favorites! We're looking for:

- recipes handed down over the generations, and the stories behind them;
- foods that represent the diversity of our congregants' history and heritage;
- new twists on old traditions.

Watch the mail and check our website, www.pasyn.org, to find out more on how to participate in this exciting project!



The Spark Within Us: An Interview With a P.A.S. Congregant

"...to me the idea of being part of a minority makes me feel distinguished among other groups. I am proud to say 'I Am Jewish' because being part of a small group makes me feel stronger. Each one of us really counts – when you think of how many stories we hear of generations of Jews being the minority and still surviving, and knowing that now the Israeli Army is one of the strongest in the world makes me proud to be Jewish. And...I love Jewish food. You can't beat *matzah-pizza* and falafel!"

– Samuel Ascheim, Vav Class



Family Education/ Kehillah

Tot Shabbat

Saturday, June 4, 11:15 am – 12:00

Noon, followed by year-end picnic
P.A.S. offers toddlers and preschoolers the wonderful opportunity to celebrate

together with their parents, grandparents and friends on *Shabbat* mornings. Bring a dairy lunch, dessert will be provided.

HaMishpachah Sheli

The Spring 2005 semester ends on June 10, 2005. Watch the mail for registration forms for the Fall 2005 semester. See you in September!

News From the Rothschild Library

by Rabbi Dawn Rose, Library Director

Jerusalem on Display

According to Martin Gilbert's *Jerusalem: Illustrated History Atlas*, the Holy City of Jerusalem has been conquered and ruled by foreign powers over 20 times. These powers included: Babylon in 587 BCE (BC), Thebes in 320 BCE, Alexandria in 300 BCE, Rome in 63 BC, Byzantium in 324 CE (AD), 629 CE, and 1517 CE, Damascus in 660 CE, Baghdad in 750 CE, England in 1917 CE, and Transjordan, etc. in 1949.

Through these dark years, Jerusalem was so crushed beneath the heels of war and poverty that W.H. Bartlett, a British visitor to the city, wrote these words in 1842: "If the traveler can forget that he is treading on the grave of a people from whom his religion has sprung, on the dust of her kings, prophets, and holy men, there is certainly no city in the world that he would sooner leave than Jerusalem." Centuries

earlier, Maimonides attempted to move his family to the Holy City only to leave again *post haste*, having found *no one of learning* with whom to study or even converse.

None of this is true today. Today Jerusalem is our shinning city of gold, a cultural, intellectual, and religious center and the focus of prayers, hopes, imaginings, and pilgrimages by Jews from around the world.

On June 6 we celebrate *Yom Yerushalayim*, the day in 1967 when Israeli soldiers reclaimed the Old City of Jerusalem. On display at the Rothschild Library will be a moving display of photography and art of Jerusalem, as well as history books, maps, and fiction for all ages. Come celebrate *Yom Yerushalayim* in a uniquely Jewish way—by learning about Jerusalem.

News From Our Schools



Park Avenue Synagogue Congregational School

is now accepting new applications and re-enrollments for the 2005 -2006 school year from members and non-members.

The school will consider new applications for *Gan*, *Alef* and *Bet* grades as well as transfers into higher grades (on a very limited basis). We offer three classes in our MATAN program for learning differences, and we are seeking students in particular for our youngest MATAN class (ages 6-7).

New applications will be considered in the order they are received. Re-enrollment forms for returning students are due on June 6th. An automatic late fee of \$100.00 will be applied to any re-enrollment received after June 6th.

For more information or to request an application packet, please call 212.369.2600 ext. 130 or 131.

Early Childhood Center Blue Room Visits "Lunch 'n' Learn"

One of the goals in our school is to familiarize the children with Jewish values, rituals and beliefs. In addition to observing *mitzvot* such as *Shabbat* and giving *tzedakah*,

trying out new roles, thus recognizing how their actions can impact others for the good.

Recently some of the children visited the Lunch 'n' Learn class that meets on Thursdays in the synagogue. To prepare for this event, Cantor Nancy Abramson talked to the children about the various groups that she teaches – from nursery



we expose the children to situations where they are doing things "*bein adam l'chaveiro*" (between man and his fellow man). They call to check on friends who are out sick; they help one another clean up spills, etc. In so doing, they are

to senior citizens. She invited the Blue Room to visit her "other" class and informed them about what the Lunch 'n' Learn class usually does and what they enjoy. The children decided to bake cookies and entertain them with Passover songs. All week they excitedly anticipated the visit; they diligently practiced songs and they arranged cookies on trays to distribute.

The visit was a huge success. The children introduced themselves and circled the room shaking hands and offering their baked goods. They were met with a tender reception. The smiles on the faces of the "Thursday Class" (as the children called them) were all the evidence needed of this great *mitzvah*. That, and an invitation by one woman, "Will you come back again?"

Not only did the children agree to return, but they decided to invite the Lunch 'n' Learn group to their class *seder*. As a result of experiences such as these, the children feel pride in themselves, which creates inherent positive reinforcement and encourages them to keep up the good work. Hopefully, teaching these concepts to children ensures that the legacy of Jewish values will be perpetuated in the next generation.

Early Childhood Center Applications for 2006-2007

Member families who would like to apply to the Park Avenue Synagogue Early Childhood Center for the 2006-07 school year are asked to call the school and request an application form between June 1 and June 30, 2005 (after June 30 the school will be closed until mid-August).

All children who were born *before* April 1, 2004 are eligible for school in September 2006. The Park Avenue Synagogue Early Childhood Center adheres strictly to its cut-off dates. Families who have been active longtime members of the synagogue are given special consideration. However, because of limitations on class size and the need to balance groups in a variety of ways, membership does not guarantee acceptance.

There is an application fee of \$40 per child. The application process includes a visit and tour of the school by one or both parents and a separate visit with the child.

For the September 2005 school year there were approximately 50 openings. It will be very helpful to have some idea prior to September how many eligible member families are interested in a place for the 2006-07 school term. This will enable us to determine how many applications from new members or non-members we will be able to accept. Thank you for your cooperation.

Contributions

Bible Fund

Ronnie and David Parker, in honor of their wedding anniversary.

Bikur Cholim

Leah & Barrie Modlin, in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Rabbi & Mrs. David H. Lincoln's granddaughter, Natasha Marrache.

Flower Fund

Ms. Arlene Meyer Cohen, in honor of her birthday.

High School Food Pantry

Ms. Albertine Aboody.

Karen & Richard Bass, in memory of Bobby Sklar.

Karen & Richard Bass, in memory of Roy Klinehart.

Karen, Richard, Jeremy & Jamie Bass, in memory of Hanna Greenbaum.

Mr. A. Stanley Gluck, in memory of his beloved brother, Joseph M. Gluck.

Dr. & Mrs. Samuel Katz.

Florence, Alley & Karen Lapidus, in memory of Milton Schmerzler.

Susan & Isaac Lemor & Family, in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Rabbi & Mrs. David Lincoln's granddaughter, Natasha Marrache.

Mr. & Mrs. Martin J. Milston, in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Natasha Marrache.

Susan, Jeff, Sam, Adam & Jeremy Silverman, in honor of the birthday of Amy Bressman.

Kol Nidre Appeal

Mr. & Mrs. Peter Meltzer

Library Fund

Mrs. Helene Agress, with congratulations to Daniel Harrow on being accepted to his chosen College.

Nursery School Fund

Jeffrey & Wendy Gendel, in honor of the Baby Naming of their daughter, Audrey Pearl Gendel.

Prayer Book Fund

Mrs. Florence G. Greenberg, in

memory of Jonathan Edelstein, son of Judge David & Florence Edelstein, and brother of Jeffrey Edelstein.

Welfare Fund

Mrs. Patricia Fuchs, in memory of her beloved grandfather, Jacob Bayer.

Mrs. Sandra Schneider, in honor of the memory of her husband, Harold Schneider.

Carolyn & Mark Schwartz, in honor of their 5th wedding anniversary.

Synagogue Offerings

Mr. Robert Adler, in memory of his beloved mother, Vivian Adler.

Mr. Harris Amster, in memory of his beloved mother, Anna Amster.

Mr. Arthur Ascher, in memory of his beloved father, Louis Ascher.

Mr. Arthur Ascher, in memory of his beloved mother, Rose Ascher.

Mr. Joseph A. Bamberger, in memory of his beloved father, Dr. Seligman Bamberger.

Mrs. Anita Bayer, in memory of her beloved husband, Elias Bayer.

Mr. Frederick Berenstein, in memory of his beloved mother, Belle Berenstein.

Mrs. Marilyn Berman, in memory of her beloved mother and father, Florence and Jerome Solomon.

Mrs. Vivian Bernstein, in memory of her beloved grandmother, Marie Holub.

Mrs. Vivian Bernstein, in honor of her birthday.

Mr. Michael Brenner, in honor of his birthday.

Dr. & Dr. Manfred Brust, in memory of their beloved son, Daniel Brust.

Toni & Robert Ceisler, in honor of Geoffrey & Marcia Colvin.

Toni & Robert Ceisler, in memory of David Seligman.

Toni & Robert Ceisler, in honor of the Clergy.

Ms. Arlene Meyer Cohen, in memory of her beloved mother, Lillian Hochman.

Ms. Beverly Diamond, in memory of Jonathan Edelstein, son of Florence Edelstein.

Ms. Beverly Diamond, in memory of her beloved mother, Pearl Diamond.

Miss Dorothy Diamond, in memory of her beloved mother, Pearl Diamond.

Mr. Howard Edelstein, in memory of his beloved father, Bernard Edelstein.

Mr. Joseph Einsidler, in memory of his beloved father, Samuel Einsidler.

Mrs. Irene Eisenberg, in honor of her birthday.

Ms. Myra L. Freed, in memory of her beloved father, William Herzl Freed.

Mrs. Gail Furman, in memory of her beloved parents, Alvin & Deorah Gorin.

Mrs. Myrna Goldberg, in honor of her birthday.

Dr. Ethan Gologor, in memory of his beloved father, Harold Gologor.

Wendy & Morley Gwirtzman, in memory of Rosalind Palca.

Mr. Fred H. Hill, in memory of his beloved sister, Dorrit Greene.

Mrs. Shelley Holm, in memory of her beloved father, Murry Erlich.

Barbara & Richard Kahn, in honor of their 53rd anniversary.

Dr. David Korris, in memory of his beloved sister, Pearl Korris.

Mr. Bernard A. Leventhal, in memory of his beloved mother, Myrne Leventhal.

Mr. Alan Levine, in memory of his beloved mother, Florence Levine.

Mr. David Levitan, in memory of his beloved wife, Judith Levitan.

Mr. & Mrs. Edward Lipiner, in honor of their anniversary.

Mr. David S. Mitchell, in memory of his beloved father, Albert Harry Mitchell.

Mrs. Elaine Polson, in memory of her beloved sister, Frances Uritsky.

Mr. Herman Rosen, in memory of his beloved mother, Etta Rosen.

Mrs. Phyllis Rosenberg, in memory of her beloved mother, Sylvia Moreida.

Mr. Imre Roth, in honor of his birthday.

Mr. Richard Samuels, in memory of Alexander R. Raydon.

Mr. Andre Sassoon, in memory of his beloved father, Gabriel Isaac Sassoon.

Mr. Ralph Schlosstein, in honor of Peter & Jaarmel Sloane and their extraordinary generosity.

Mr. Benjamin D. Seligman, in memory of his beloved father, Nathan Seligman.

Florence & Benjamin Seligman, in honor of Irene Eisenberg's 95th birthday.

Randi Sherman, in memory of Paul Gendler.

Randi Sherman, in memory of Lorraine Hirschhorn.

Ms. Barbara Shulman, in memory of her beloved father, Ralph Shulman.

Dr. David Simpson, in honor of his birthday.

Mrs. Ida Snell, in honor of her birthday.

Ms. Lois Stumer, in memory of her beloved father, David Schulman.

Mrs. Bernice Tannenbaum, in memory of her beloved husband, Nathan Tannenbaum.

Dr. Helene Torker, in memory of her beloved mother, Anna Amster.

Mrs. Rory Van Gelder, in honor of her birthday.

Dr. Bernard Weiss, in memory of his beloved father, Dr. Samuel Weiss.

Mr. & Mrs. Charles Weitzman, in honor of their anniversary.

Mr. Charles Weitzman, in memory of his beloved mother, Miriam Weitzman.

Mrs. Elaine Weitzman, in honor of her birthday.

A Look Ahead

Evening of Learning at the Rothschild

Tuesday, July 12,
7:00 - 8:30 pm

Rabbi Ken Stern, Rabbi Dawn Rose, Sarah Gribetz and another guest scholar will be on board.

Summer Walking Tours of New York City

Tuesdays, July 19 and August 9,
6:30 - 8:00 pm

Watch for details and plan to enjoy a wonderful summer evening exploring Jewish New York.

Sisterhood: Update on the Yiddish Club

Sisterhood is thrilled to announce that the Yiddish Club of P.A.S. will officially begin in the fall of 2005. The club, which will become an affiliate of the International Association of Yiddish Clubs, will focus on Yiddish conversation (don't hesitate to join us even if your Yiddish is very rusty), but will also discuss Yiddish culture, sometimes with speakers and/or films. Membership is open to all at P.A.S.; if you haven't already joined, please call Florence Solomon at (212) 369-3856 now.

P.A.S. Is Just a Click Away

Spend a few minutes at Park Avenue Synagogue's website, www.pasyn.org.

Get the latest information on events, programs, classes, meetings, etc. See the Synagogue calendar. Sign up for email groups. Communicate with our clergy and staff.

Men's Retiree Group

Tuesdays at 12:45 pm
A free-wheeling discussion on all topics, including Israel. Contact: Mr. Levine, at (212) 988-8989.

Celebrating a Simcha?

A birthday, anniversary, engagement, wedding, new grandchild, etc.? Sponsor a breakfast Kiddush any weekday after our Morning Minyan or sponsor a Kiddish on Shabbat. Call Lynn Schneider at the Synagogue for more information, (212) 369-2600.

June Birthday Celebration

Bring *Shabbat* into your children's lives by celebrating their birthdays at P.A.S. All children with June birthdays will be called up to the *bimah* and honored at our Birthday Celebration Service, Friday evening, June 10 at 6:15 pm. Come as a family and celebrate. Call Rabbi Kenneth Stern's office for more information.



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THE PARK AVENUE SYNAGOGUE

Bikur Cholim Caring Committee

In Loving Memory
of Dr. and Mrs. Albert Cornell
The Park Avenue Synagogue Bikur Cholim Caring Committee reaches out in complete confidence to the ill, elderly and homebound in friendship and companionship through telephone calls and/or visits. If you would like to be contacted by one of its caring, dedicated volunteers, or know someone who might benefit from the committee's attention, please contact Rabbi Lincoln's secretary, Liya, at (212) 369-2600.


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UNIQUE EYEWEAR FOR CHILDREN & ADULTS

CALENDAR OF EVENTS for JUNE 2005

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
THE EDMOND DE ROTHSCHILD LIBRARY Schedule of Hours: Mondays 12:30 pm to 6:30 pm Tuesdays 10:30 am to 6:30 pm Wednesdays 12:30 pm to 6:30 pm Thursdays 12:30 pm to 6:30 pm	REMEMBER THE DAILY MINYANIM Monday - Friday at 7:15 am Sundays and Legal Holidays at 9 am <i>Minha</i> Sunday-Thursday, 5:45 pm. Saturday, 6:00 pm.		1	2	3	4
				Last Day of ECC Classes 11:00 am Lunch 'n' Learn Young Couples Group Bowling Party 7:00 pm Evening of Learning	6:15 pm Friday Evening Service 7:00 pm High School Graduation & Dinner* 8:04 pm Light Candles	7:30 am Hashkama Service 9:15 am Sanctuary Service, Ruth Calderon, Speaker 9:30 am Havurah Service 11:15 am Tot Shabbat Service & Picnic
5 Salute to Israel Day Parade	6 <i>Yom Yerushalayim</i> 7:00 pm End-of-Year Board of Trustees Meeting	7 8:00 am Talmud Study w/ Rabbi Lincoln 11:00 am Tuesday Topics w/ Rabbi Stern 7:30 pm WEG Moonbeams 7:30 pm Men's Club Program, Floyd Abrams, speaker	8	9 11:00 am Lunch 'n' Learn	10 Children's Birthday Service 6:15 pm Friday Evening Service 8:08 pm Light Candles	11 9:15 am Sanctuary Service
12 <i>Erev Shavuot</i> 8:00 pm Service & <i>Tikun Leyl Shavuot</i> (study session) 8:09 pm Light Candles	13 <i>Shavuot</i> Synagogue Offices Closed 9:15 am Sanctuary Service 5:45 pm <i>Minha</i> 9:10 pm Light Candles	14 <i>Shavuot</i> Synagogue Offices Closed 9:15 am Sanctuary Service w/ <i>Yizkor</i> 5:45 pm <i>Minha</i>	15	16 11:00 am Lunch 'n' Learn	17 6:15 pm Friday Evening Service 8:11 pm Light Candles	18 9:15 am Sanctuary Service
19	20 5:30 pm WEG Members' HUC Gallery Tour	21 8:00 am Talmud Study w/ Rabbi Lincoln 11:00 am Tuesday Topics w/ Rabbi Stern 1:00 pm Sisterhood Program Men's Club Year-End Dinner	22	23 11:00 am Lunch 'n' Learn	24 6:15 pm Friday Evening Service 8:13 pm Light Candles	25 9:15 am Sanctuary Service
26	27	28 8:00 am Talmud Study w/ Rabbi Lincoln 6:30 pm Summer Walking Tour	29	30 11:00 am Lunch 'n' Learn		ECC =Early Childhood Center CS =Congregational School CS-PA =Congregational School Parents' Association HS =Rabbi Judah Nadich High School

*Reservation required

All information is subject to change. Please confirm with the Synagogue office.

Mitzvot in Elul: Preparing for the High Holy Days

"...Your fasting today is not such
As to make your voice heard on high...
No, this is the fast that I desire:
To unlock the fetters of wickedness,
And untie the cords of the yoke
To let the oppressed go free:
To break off every yoke.
It is to share your bread with the hungry,
And to take the wretched poor
into your home;
When you see the naked, to clothe him,
And not to ignore your own kin..."

~Isaiah, 58:3-7 Haftarah
for Yom Kippur Morning

As Jews we are called upon to act and make the world a better place. What better time for us to do this as a community than the month of *Elul*, the final month of the Jewish year, traditionally a time of introspection and communal preparation for the Days of Awe? This year, the month of *Elul* coincides with the month of September. As a community we will set aside the weeks leading up to *Selichot* and *Rosh HaShanah* to engage in a variety of meaningful acts of giving back to the community.

Together with the *Tikkun Olam* Committee, each synagogue arm will sponsor projects and activities. Choices will include park clean-ups, shelter visits, meal preparation and serving to the homeless, food and clothing delivery and visits with war veterans at hospitals. All synagogue members will have a chance to participate as activities will be scheduled on varying days of the week and at varying times.

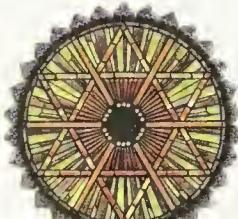
The excerpt left, from the book of Isaiah, which we read on *Yom Kippur*, conveys the importance of reaching out to those in need particularly at this time of year. It is important as Jews that we understand where the commandments come from and as such, each project will commence with a brief, text-based introduction by a member of our clergy and/or educational staff.

Watch the mail in late August for more information about how to participate in this innovative and important initiative.

SAVE
THE
DATE
FOR

MITZVAH
DAY
SUNDAY,
NOV. 20,
2005

THIS IS THE LAST BULLETIN UNTIL THE SEPTEMBER 2005 ISSUE.



Park Avenue Synagogue ק"ק אגודה ישראלים

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